

News briefs

Commander's corner

During Commander's Corner each Friday from 7-8 a.m. on Eifel 105.1, Col. Stephen P. Mueller, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, addresses a variety of topics and questions from the Eifel community.

People can submit questions by e-mailing 52fw.commanderscorner@spangdahlem.af.mil or calling Eifel 105.1 during the show at 452-1051.

Binsfeld gate closure

The Binsfeld gate closes Tuesday due to road construction. The old main gate opens for traffic from 6-8 a.m.

Construction is estimated to take at least three months. However, the Binsfeld gate closure may be permanent, depending on when the Rhein-Main project construction begins.

Transition briefing

A briefing about transitioning to retired life after military service takes place Oct. 10 from 8-10:30 a.m. at the base theater.

The briefing, "Marketing Yourself For a Second Career," is open to officers, NCOs, civilians and spouses.

Jerry Crews, an expert on transitioning from military to civilian employment, will introduce the audience to the realities of the competition in the civilian job market; the perceptions of civilian employees have of military personnel; a plan for the job search; tips for strengthening the resume; networking plans; preparing for and conducting a successful interview and salary negotiations; and benefit packages. For more information, call Mary Long at 452-6422

Shuttle change

Beginning Tuesday, the wing's shuttle service will change.

The wing shuttle will no longer provide service to Binsfeld, Herforst and Speicher government-leased housing areas. The wing shuttle service will maintain the current route between Spangdahlem AB and the Bitburg Annex. The perimeter shuttle service will no longer exist. The internal Spangdahlem AB loop/schedule however, will remain intact. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Rick Shaner, 452-6649.

Air Force news

People can find out what's going on around the Air Force each day by visiting www.af.mil. There's also an option to have the news delivered to e-mail boxes.

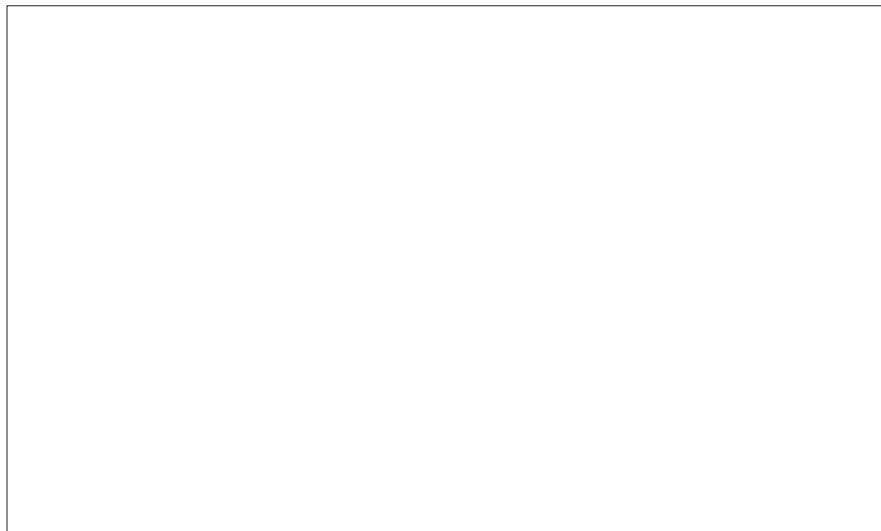
Eifel Times

Vol. 36, Issue 35

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Sept. 27, 2002

Operational Readiness Inspection validates mission capability



Staff Sgt. Karen Z. Silcott

Members of the 52nd Fighter Wing applaud the results of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Euro-Lightning Phase I ORI during the outbrief Tuesday morning. For more about the ORI results and a glance at the wing in action, turn to the insert in the middle of the paper.

Safety competition raises awareness

Maintenance group knocks out medical group for first place

By Tech. Sgt. Howard T. Bailey
52nd Fighter Wing Safety Office

During the past five years, the 52nd Fighter Wing Ground Safety Office has sponsored a "Battle of the Groups" competition. The purpose was to develop a competitive spirit, encouraging mishap reduction through functional manager involvement throughout the 101 Days of Summer.

Consequently, people from each unit on base have become actively involved in the wing's mishap prevention and safety

programs throughout the summer months.

The maintenance, medical, mission support and operations groups gain points for experiencing reportable ground mishaps and driving under the influence and seatbelt violations.

However, groups have the opportunity to earn "reduction points" by conducting safety initiatives. The goal for each group is to earn as many reduction points as possible for a negative point score. The group with the lowest score at the end of the competition wins.

To conclude the competition, the losing group commander

See **Safety**, Page 2

Combined Federal Campaign kicks off Tuesday

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — The 2002 overseas Combined Federal Campaign kicks off Tuesday, and officials here hope the generosity of contributors will continue in order to help top last year's European contributions of nearly \$6 million.

"Last year, after 9-11, there was a huge outpouring of support for the campaign. People in Europe gave about \$700,000 more to CFC in 2001 than they did in 2000, and USAFE raised \$2.1 million of that amount alone," said Greg Sassman, director for the European CFC.

In 2001, Spangdahlem Air Base donated more than \$284,000 to CFC, according to Senior Master Sgt. Viking White, 2001 CFC project officer.

"So many people felt the need to give and support the charities assisting in relief efforts (that) donations went way up for all campaigns," he said. "USAFE people always do a great job of giving, and there is a great deal of support from the top down. We very much appreciate it."

Sassman said last year's campaign was extended because of 9-11 and other related

events, "but the campaign returns to a normal schedule and run through Nov. 15 this year."

"CFC is a once a year opportunity for federal employees and military members to give to the charity of their choice," said Melissa Kidder, director for the Overseas CFC.

Contributor's can help support more than 1,300 organizations this year, "including military family support and youth programs at their local installations," said Kidder.

According to the 2002 CFC-Overseas Contributor Brochure, people can help support a wide range of activities at base youth centers and family support facilities in their community by writing "FSYP" on their pledge cards.

For more information on CFC, contact Master Sgt. Stan Gilmore, Spangdahlem Air Base CFC project officer, at 452-7214 or call the CFC overseas hot line at DSN 480-2423. (U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service)

Major AEF changes coming in June

Officials say changes will enhance ability of AEF to handle two missions

By Tech. Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON -- Major air expeditionary force changes are coming beginning with the start of Cycle 4 in June.

People and assets from two on-call wings will be embedded in the 10 AEFs while expeditionary combat support assets from throughout the Air Force will be "leveled." Also, some Air Reserve Component contributions to the AEF will be realigned.

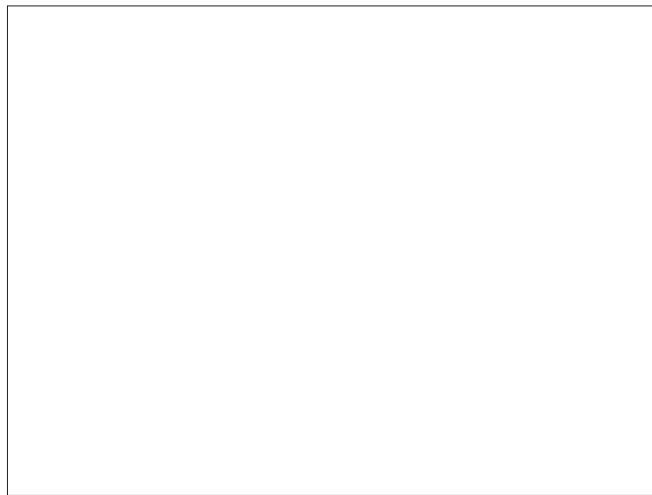
The changes will enhance the ability of the AEF construct to handle both steady state requirements and surge support for contingency operations, according to Maj. Gen. Timothy A. Peppe, special assistant to the chief of staff for air and space expeditionary forces.

"The thing that everyone needs to understand is (the AEF construct) has worked pretty well," Peppe said. "We know there are issues out there, and leadership is committed to fixing those issues."

The first change involves the 4th Fighter Wing at Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., and the 366th Wing at Mountain Home AFB, Idaho. These units, which currently operate in a 120-day rotational on-call status, will have their assets and people aligned throughout the 10 AEFs.

Each will be a lead wing, with aircraft and expeditionary combat support generally focused into two different AEF periods to facilitate teaming, Peppe said. Their change in status will not result in the movement of people or equipment to other bases.

Besides placing people from these two wings into the overall expeditionary combat



File photo by Staff Sgt. Diane Thomas

Senior Airman Mark Simonds deployed to Operation Northern Watch with the 81st Fighter Squadron for an air expeditionary force rotation. Next year, AEF will undergo major changes, which could affect deployments for Simonds and others at Spangdahlem Air Base.

support pool, the Aerospace Expeditionary Force Center at Langley AFB, Va., is working to level ECS manning in all rotations.

"We're trying to rearrange ECS assets Air Force-wide so there's a leveling of assets across the 10 AEFs, so the capabilities and numbers are about the same," Peppe said. "This more even distribution of personnel will allow us to support a higher level of requirements."

Leveling the assets will make some airmen vulnerable to deployment sooner than they expected, while others will have their normal training periods extended.

percent of airmen will be affected by this fine-tuning."

Spangdahlem Air Base will be affected as well, according to Lt. Col. John McDevitt, chief of wing plans.

"The ECS element is going to be realigned from AEF 9 to AEF 7 in cycle 4," he said. "What does that mean? It means the people tasked for the next AEF, which is AEF 9, March-May 2003, will only have nine months before they have to go on AEF 7 in March 2004. Given there is ECS back-to-back tasking between AEF 9 and AEF 2, the AEF Center is trying to minimize the tasking for AEF 2 in June to August 2003."

The third change involves distributing Air Reserve Component assets across the AEFs to provide a more consistent level of the workload for the reserve component.

"The Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve contribute significantly (to the AEF construct) with aviation and support assets," Peppe said. "If you look at how they're postured right now, you'll see that they're heavily weighted in AEFs 7, 8, 9 and 10."

Better distributing the ANG and Reserve forces is especially important considering that ARC aircraft and people are also heavily involved in Operation Noble Eagle, Peppe said.

"We have to smooth-flow their availability so it gives us a more ideal mix throughout the AEF cycle," he said.

Peppe added that the Air Reserve Component will also realign ANG fighters by block type and geography.

The combination of these changes will help the Air Force better present its forces in the long term, Peppe said.

"The bottom line is we're making changes to maximize capability available across the board," Peppe said. "We want to smooth-flow capabilities across the AEFs and minimize the hills and valleys."

Accidents

By John W. Keeler
52nd Security Forces Squadron Reports and Analysis

Sixteen Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, three of which were major.

■The first was in the vicinity of Bonner Strasse in Trier. Investigation by the Polizei found an airman didn't pay attention to the road and hit a warning sign. There were no injuries. However, the Polizei administered a preliminary breath test and found results of .168 percent.

The airman, who was legally intoxicated, was taken to the Trier Polizei station pending the notification and release to security forces.

■The second was on L-46 near the Speicher turn-off. An airman reported he swerved to miss a deer when he lost control of his vehicle and ran into a ditch embankment. There were no injuries.

After the accident the airman left his vehicle at the scene, and departed the area without notifying either civilian or military police.

A security forces patrol saw the vehicle and immediately tried to locate the individual. About six hours later, the airman called the control center and told the law enforcement desk sergeant that he would

go to LE desk and give a written statement.

The airman was charged with fleeing the scene of an accident and now faces the loss of his driving privileges for 180 days.

■The third was on B-50 adjacent to the golf course. Polizei investigation found that a family member was traveling at a high rate of speed when she lost control of her vehicle and collided with the base perimeter fence.

The family member suffered no injuries. The vehicle sustained disabling damage to the front end and was towed from the scene. She was administered a Breathalyzer test and the result was .023. She wasn't charged, but Polizei believe alcohol could have been a contributing factor to the accident.

Property damage consisted of a 70-foot downed section of perimeter fence. A security forces member was posted to control access to the base.

The 13 minor accidents involved:

■Nine from inattentive driving.

■Four while backing.

In addition, 14 citations were issued and this year's 38 charge for driving under the influence was given Saturday.

Safety

Continued from Page 1

washes a vehicle of the winning group commander's choice at the annual safety picnic. This year's picnic takes place today along with the wing sports day and post-operational readiness inspection party at 11:30 a.m. in the bowling alley pavilion area.

This year's competition was tough. All four groups experienced reportable ground mishaps and received seatbelt violations and three groups experienced DULs.

However, all groups aggressively earned reduction points by conducting a multitude of safety initiatives. Throughout the summer months, people could be seen conducting vehicle safety inspections, performing seatbelt surveys, handing out safety flyers and shaking hands while dressed as Vince and Larry, the Crash Test Dummies.

In the end, the maintenance group captured first place with negative 45,998 points. The medical group came in second with negative 9,539 points, followed by the mission support group, with the operations group in last place.

The wing safety office wishes to thank each member of Team Eifel for efforts in making the 101 Critical Days of Summer safe for everyone in the 52nd Fighter Wing.

U.S. Air Forces in Europe experienced two fatalities this summer; however, Spangdahlem Air Base did not suffer any serious ground safety mishaps. Unfortunately, the Air Force lost 30 members this summer.

Supervisors should continue to stress the responsible use of alcohol, seatbelt and helmet usage, and defensive driving strategies. Working together to manage risks saves lives and reduces injuries.

Air Force striving to get airmen paid right

More than a year after a new personnel data system began to trigger an "unacceptable" number of pay problems, Air Force leaders have appointed a 'pay czar' and mobilized personnel and finance people to fix and prevent pay problems.

A recent success: ensuring more than 150 new retirees — some just released from stop loss — received their first retirement paychecks Sept. 1.

"It's the kind of thing we're getting a lot better at catching before it happens, but it's still amazingly complicated to fix," said Dave Ashton, a career personnelist who's back at the personnel center after a 30-year active-duty career.

In June, the commander here asked him to drop what he was doing to become the "personnel pay czar." Ashton accepted the challenge and now acts as the center's liaison to the air staff, installation personnel and finance offices, and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (where all pay transactions ultimately take effect).

His task is to find problems, fix them and find ways to get bad data out of the system before it does more damage to airmen's pay.

Military pay is complicated. Airmen receive allowances and bonuses that vary depending on such things as number of years in the service, qualifying bonuses and term of enlistment, he said.

Pay problems range from people getting paid the wrong

amounts to people having to receive pay 'manually' instead of through standard electronic transfers directly into bank accounts.

One way to prevent pay problems before they happen is to detect disagreements between an airman's finance and personnel records. Officials estimate data mismatches may affect up to 40,000 airmen.

Individuals can help themselves by reviewing their monthly leave and earning statements, said Ashton. "That's something everyone should always do—every month."

But the Air Force doesn't want to depend on airmen policing their own records. "We want to prevent most of those errors from ever occurring," he said.

"We're dedicated to catching these problems as soon as possible because airmen deserve the best pay support we can provide," said Bruce Lemkin, the Air Force's second-highest ranking financial manager and co-chair of the Personnel and Pay Council.

Chartered by the secretary of the Air Force, the council guides Air Force pay improvement efforts.

"As a result of newly focused teamwork at all levels, the problems are becoming narrower in scope and easier to identify and fix," said Lemkin.

One of the council's visions is to initiate "one-stop customer service," which means airmen will no longer have to

do the legwork carrying issues between personnel and finance offices, he said.

"We're going to take the problem and send the person home assured that we will pass the issue among the relevant offices for them ... and keep them updated," Lemkin said.

"It's not their fault their pay record isn't correct. We shouldn't make it their burden to find the person that can fix it," said Ashton.

Extra training, increased communication and just plain hard work from a lot of our bases and the people here and in the finance world will get things back on track.

"We're still fighting to get to where the systems share the right information," he said.

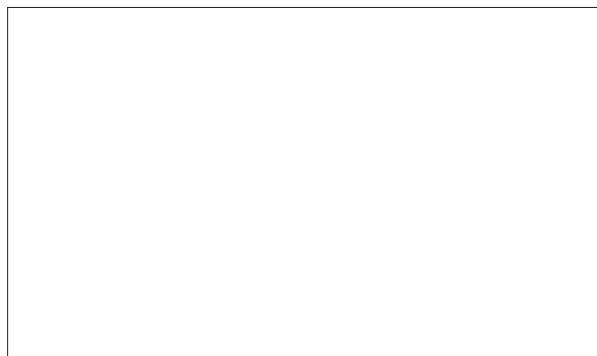
As a forerunner to the one-stop shopping vision, Ashton recently distributed a database that will help support "virtual" one-stop customer service. The program was sent to every Air Force base serving as an interim step until a central database, still under development, can be delivered, he said.

No single initiative can fix everything, Ashton said.

Sometimes it comes down to persistence, as it did with the 150 retirees who almost didn't get paid.

"It was just a matter of our retirements team here talking to a whole lot of people in a number of organizations and insisting on getting the system to do the right thing. Because it's the right thing to do," Ashton said. (*Air Force Personnel Center*)

Eifel Elite



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

Senior Airman Haley Singler, 52nd Medical Support Squadron, is this week's Top Saber Performer.

Top Saber Performer

Name: Senior Airman Haley Singler

Unit, duty title: 52nd Medical Support Squadron chief mammography technologist

Hometown: Ocean Springs, Miss.

Time in Service: Three years

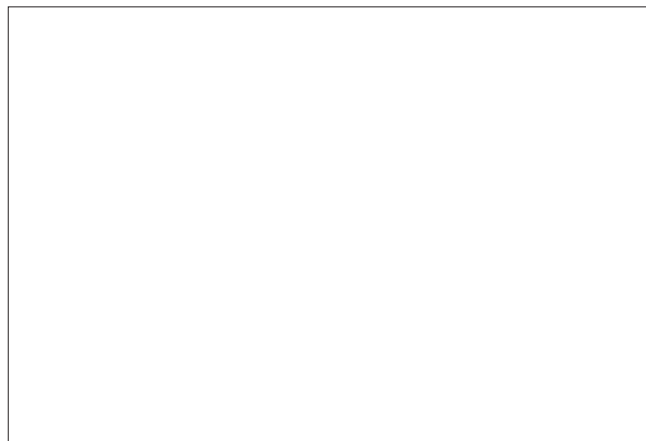
Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success: Senior Airman Singler is in charge of mammography for the 52nd Medical Group, performing 37 patient screenings monthly. Her meticulous administration resulted in a perfect score on the last Food and Drug Administration inspection. A past 52nd Fighter Wing Airman of the Quarter, her consistent stellar performance culminated in her selection as the Anton Zembrod Diagnostic Imaging Outstanding Airman of the Year for 2001.

Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: Currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in psychology through the University of Maryland University College.

What do you do for fun? Or, What's a fun thing you've done lately? Skiing and backpacking. I recently traveled to Italy for a two-week kayaking/camping trip.

What do you like most about being stationed here? Traveling and the World War II historic sites.

What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base? I'd like to see a 24 hour gym at Bitburg and child care services at base gyms.



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

The public health flight was selected as this week's Top Saber Team.

Top Saber Team

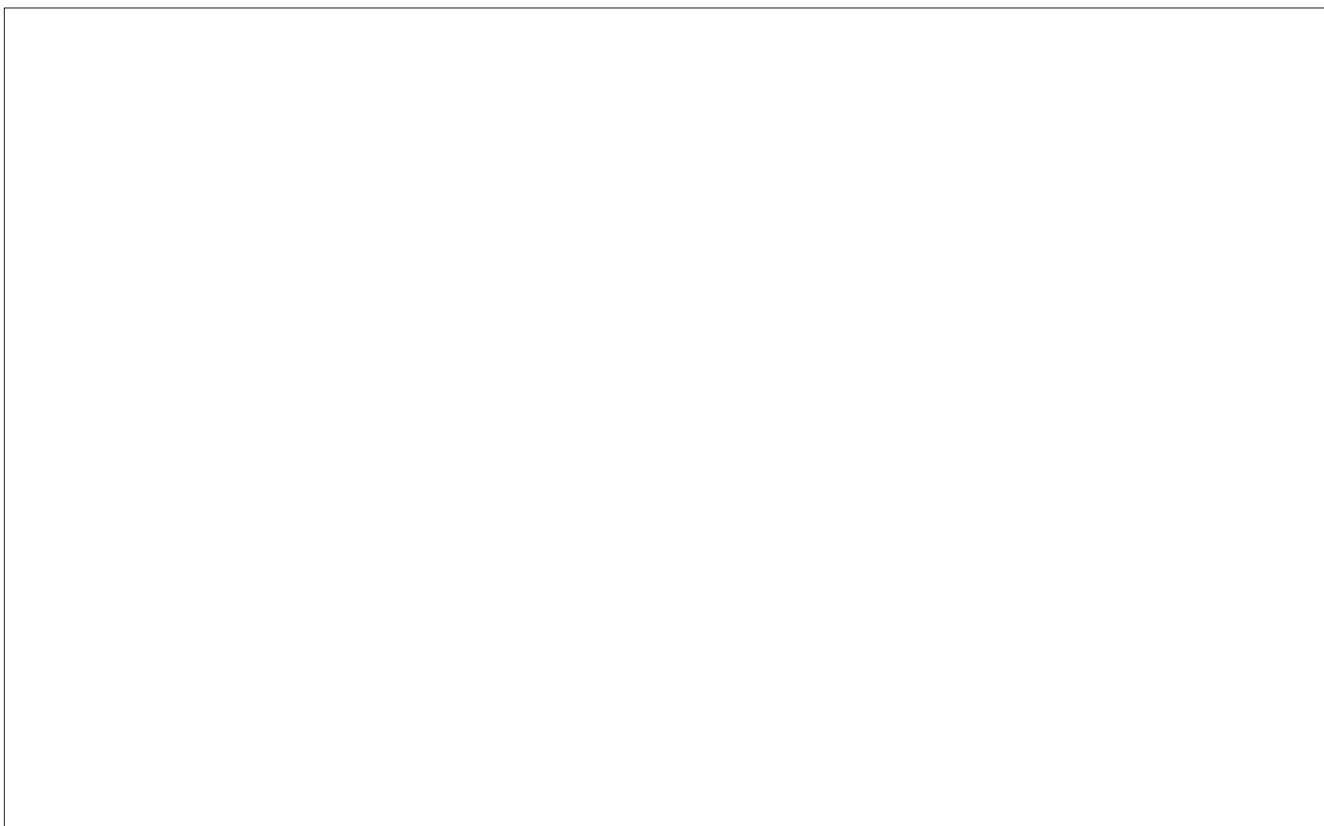
Unit name: 52nd Medical Group Public Health Flight

Selected by: Lt. Col. Rebecca Brown, 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron commander

Number of members: 11

Responsibilities: Monitors wing population health and protection for 14,000 people. Conducts occupational, community, and disease surveillance, and food safety monitoring. Ensures the safety of \$27 million of procured food and oversees the sanitation standards of 58 base facilities.

How does the team fit in to the 52nd FW's mission: Two members of the flight provided invaluable expertise recently for the 52nd Medical Group's humanitarian deployment to Uganda. They ensured the health and safety of more than 112 deployed people from all branches of the military, seven partner nations and three continents. In addition they provided public health outreach to the local community and Ugandan Peoples' Defense Forces. Public Health is responsible for monitoring the health status of everyone enrolled to the Spangdahlem Air Base and Bitburg Annex clinics. They work closely with the bioenvironmental engineering flight, flight medicine and family practice clinics to monitor occupational health exams for people assigned to industrial shops at the base. They helped bring the occupational health exam compliance up from 65 to 90 percent. They also spearheaded deployment medicine. For the first time, Spangdahlem AB is "green" on medical readiness. This is a wing-wide success, with public health as the catalyst for incredible teamwork.

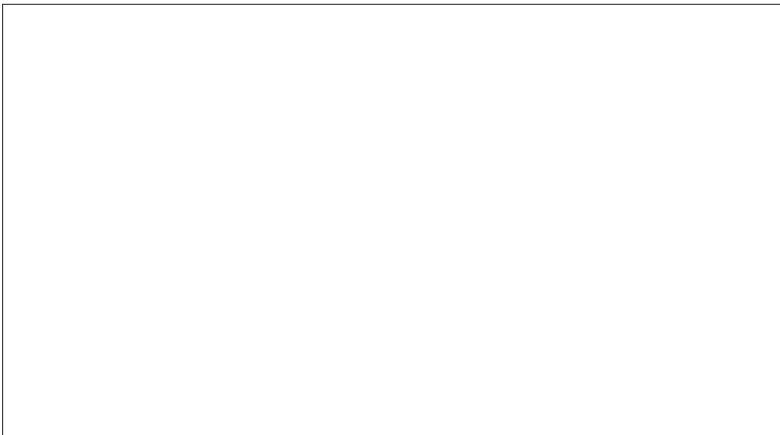


Airman 1st Class Jamie C. Montgomery, Tops In Blue performer, sings Saturday night at Spangdahlem Air Base. Tops In Blue is the premier entertainment showcase of the U.S. Air Force.

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Velez

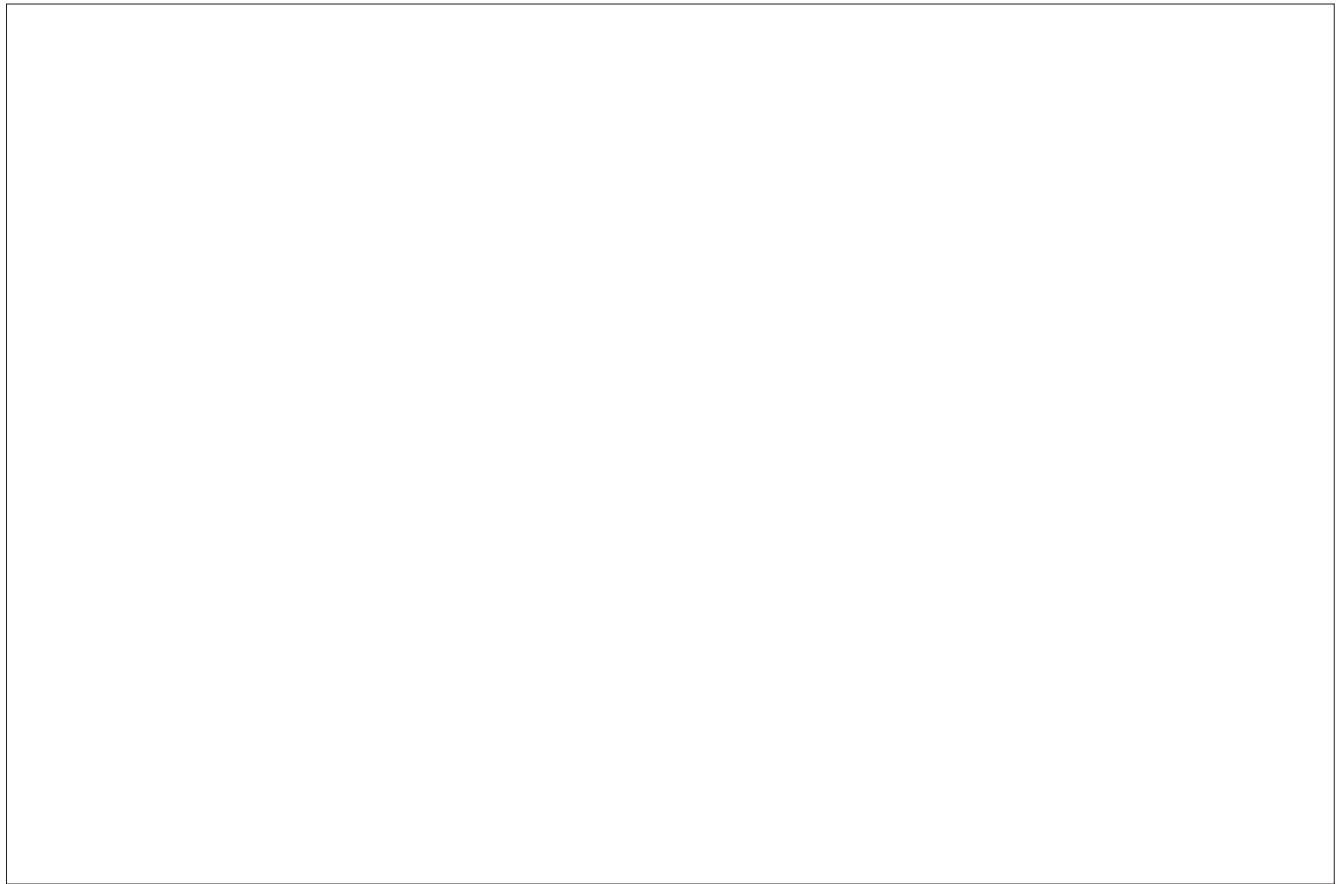
A little R & R

After ORI, Spang's week gets TOPped off



Above: 1st Lt. Sarah L. Cantrell, Tops In Blue performer, sings the blues Saturday during the performance at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center. Right: Vocalists from Tops In Blue perform Saturday.





A 23rd Fighter Squadron F-16CJ gets ready to takeoff for a training mission during the 52nd Fighter Wing's Operational Readiness Inspection Sept. 17-20. The wing received an overall grade of "Satisfactory" while several units around base were cited by the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Inspector General Team for superior performance.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

TOUCHDOWN!

Intensive preparation pays off for Team Eifel

By Col. Stephen P. Mueller
52nd Fighter Wing commander

Congratulations Team Eifel! Thank you for the absolutely superior effort and positive attitude. You truly displayed a "one team, one fight" demeanor during the ORI and the intensive preparation leading up to last week's evaluation. I am extremely proud of each and every one of you.

As I said in the out brief, you should also be proud of the work you did and effort put forth. The U.S. Air Forces in Europe Inspector General VALIDATED your ability to accomplish your wartime tasking. This is no easy feat and one that has literally thousands of required tasks, which must be coordinated and accomplished to rigorous standards. This high standard is what makes Team Eifel and our Air Force great.

What we do by providing combat power to the combatant commanders is literally the toughest task in the

entire world. Stop and think how complicated our business can be and you will realize that your accomplishment was no small feat. I know that you are better than "Satisfactory." I also know that you have trouble believing "Satisfactory" is a great grade. We often associate "Satisfactory" with average, WRONG site picture! There was nothing average about your performance or your attitude. This grade reflects an assessment of our ability to go to war. There is nothing average about that, so don't let the word choice of the grade get you down.

I also mentioned that this evaluation was a snapshot in time and not the whole picture. Like a picture it only measures one moment and does not give you the full image that you get when you make a movie. The IG team evaluates you on your performance at that moment in time, often that "picture" doesn't fully represent the true image. We, the senior leadership, saw the entire movie and witnessed your Academy Award performance! We see your day-to-day dedication and hard work. We see the complete picture

when it comes to your ability and performance. We are extremely proud of your efforts and results.

I have told you that we need to stay focused on the greater mission of readiness and ability to provide combat power when called upon. Proving you can do that yesterday is great, but yesterday's picture is only of value if you learn how to make you better for tomorrow's challenges.

As you have heard me say several times, this is the case of a "mostly sunny forecast." You have the ability to interpret the "Satisfactory" grade in one of two ways. You can take the pessimistic approach and say "we're average," or you can take the optimistic approach and say "we're combat ready!"

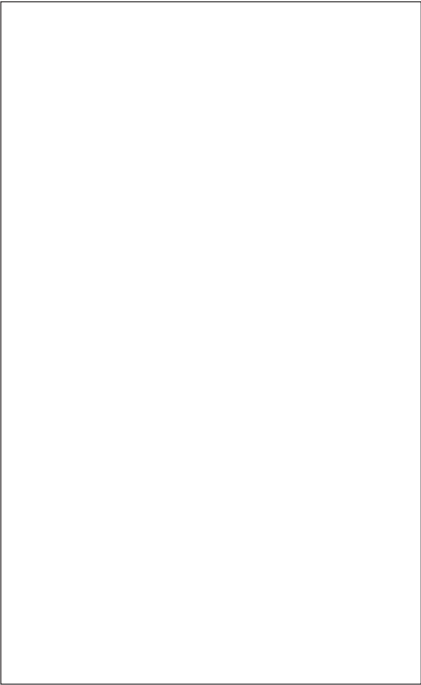
Optimists are leaders. Optimism prepares you to tackle tough challenges. There is no tougher challenge than combat operations. I refuse to accept any other interpretation of your efforts. Congratulations on winning this last battle!



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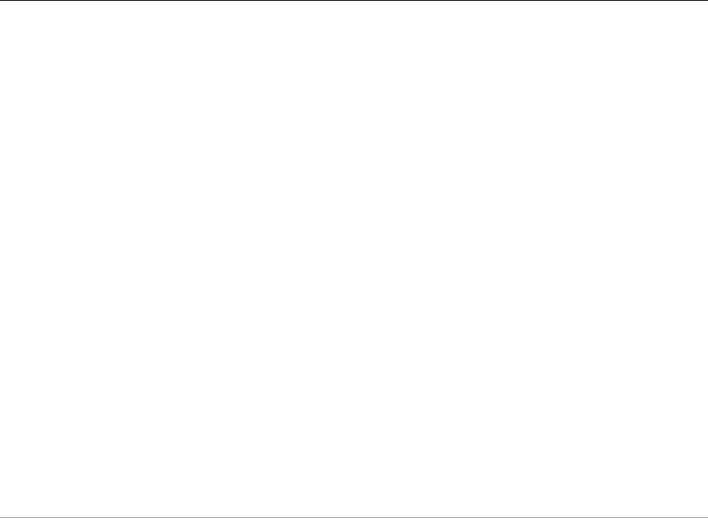
Airman 1st Class Nicholas Burtch, 52nd Security Forces Squadron, keeps an eye out from his post during the USAFE Operational Readiness Inspection.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

Airman 1st Class Richard Dehart, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, prepares an F-16 to deploy during the ORI.



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

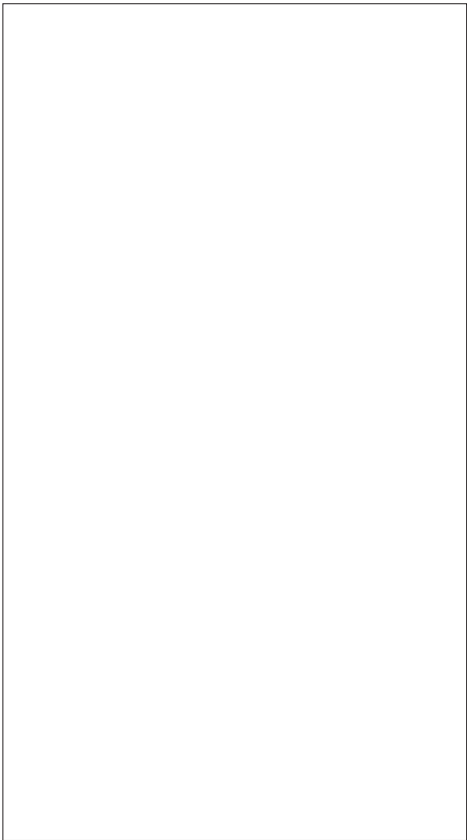
Maj. Michael Paston, 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron, processing flight commander, shows his dog tags to Senior Airman Shavon Brookes, 52nd Mission Support Squadron during the USAFE ORI Sept. 17-20. Deploying troops must go through a variety of stations in the personnel deployment facility to take care of legal, financial, spiritual, medical and personal affairs. Troops are also briefed by numerous agencies, including the Office of Special Investigations, chaplain, finance and the military personnel flight.

Staff Sgt. Jacob Smith, 52nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Squadron, monitor a suspicious parcel for contamination during a destruction scenario.



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

ff Sgt. Michelle Wilkerson, 52nd Medical Operations Squadron, counts and reviews shot records needed for processing at the personnel deployment center during the Operational Readiness Inspection Sept. 17-20. The ORI tested Spangdahlem's ability to process and deploy people in a short amount of time.



Tech. Sgt. Joe Springfield

Senior Airman James Swain, 52nd Security Forces Squadron, keeps an eye out for unusual activity on the flightline from his post.



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

52nd Civil Engineer Squadron's sal team, uses an ADM-300 to package and surrounding area of the weapons of mass



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

Airman 1st Class Caleb Crass, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, helps with outprocessing procedures, such as verifying shelf-life and matching stock number for chemical gear issued to Staff Sgt. Scott Maier, 52nd Operations Support Squadron, at the mobility bag issue point Sept. 18. The Mobility Element MOBAG Team received an Inspector General Pat on the Back at the ORI outbrief Tuesday morning.

IG Award of Excellence
52nd Operations Support Squadron

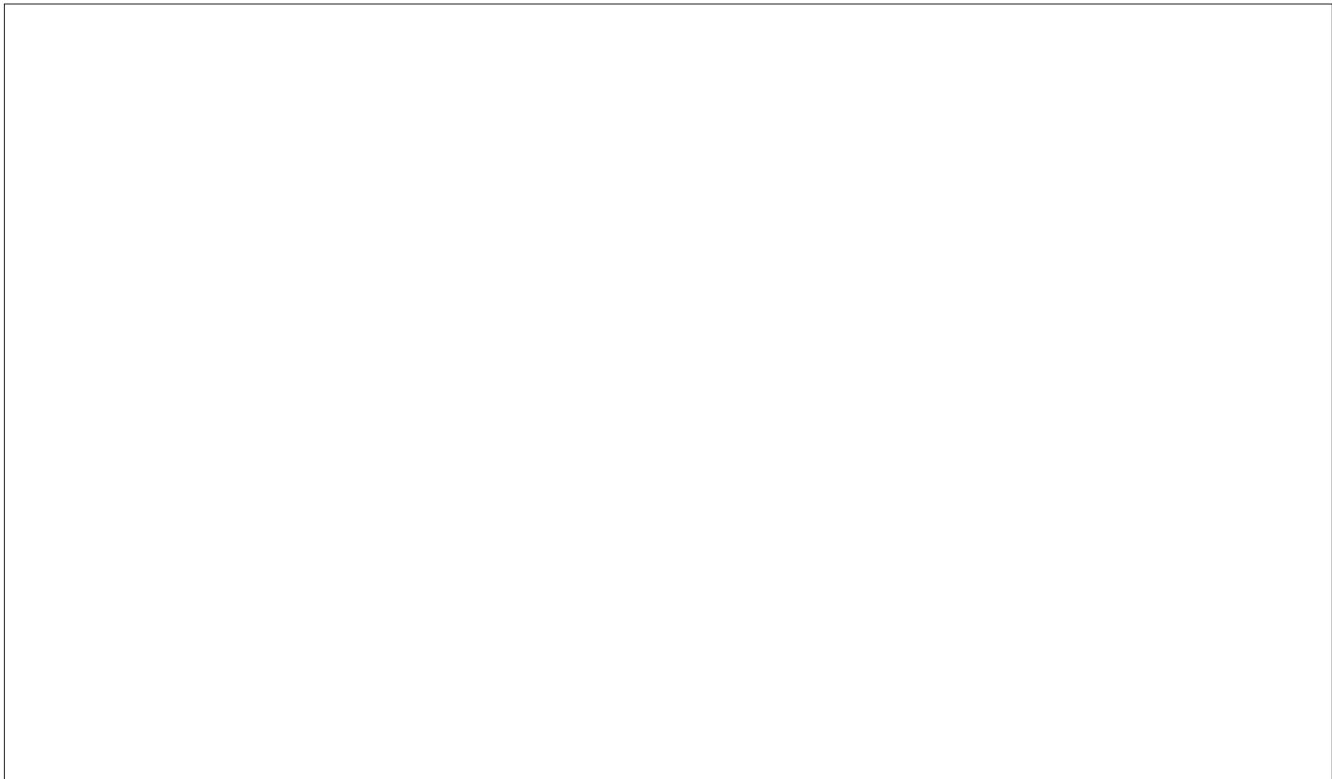
Mission Planning Cell
Maj. Kevin Schneider
Maj. Mel Petersen
Maj. James Cleet
Capt. Trevor Wentlandt
Capt. Michael Bruzzini
Capt. Paul Neidhardt
Capt. Cline Eichelberger

52nd Services Squadron Unit Control Center

Capt. Kristie Cannon
Capt. Alyson Miller
1st Lt. John Ponton
Senior Master Sgt. Andy Flores
Master Sgt. Anthony Wise
Tech. Sgt. John MacGaffick
Tech. Sgt. William Vincent
Staff Sgt. Kenny Boodell
Staff Sgt. Brian Hendon
Staff Sgt. Randall Reno
Senior Airman Machellia Fields
Airman 1st Class Brian Sneed

IG Pat on the Back

52nd Services Combat Support Flight
22nd Aircraft Maintenance Flight
52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron
Mobility Element MOBAG Team
52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Munitions Flight Breakout Team
1st Lt. Claudia Bermudez
52nd LRS
2nd Lt. Bobby Buckner Jr
81st Aircraft Maintenance Flight
Tech. Sgt. Stephen Burk
52nd Operations Support Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Cooper
52nd Fighter Wing
Tech. Sgt. Randy Madick
52nd LRS
Tech. Sgt. William Serenbetz
52nd Maintenance Operations Squadron
Staff Sgt. Aaron Bushy
52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Staff Sgt. James Cox
52nd LRS
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Hartman
52nd Communications Squadron
Senior Airman Stephen Frias
22nd Fighter Squadron
Senior Airman Christina Lamantia
52nd LRS
Airman 1st Class Isabel Aldrette
52nd LRS
Airman 1st Class Michael Corsiglia
52nd OSS
Airman 1st Class Patrick O'Connor
81st AMF
Airman 1st Class Garry Prude
52nd LRS



Photos by Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

Tech. Sgt. David M. Wilson, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron assistant chief of operations at the fire department, establishes a 500-foot cordon and determines which buildings to evacuate during a weapons of mass destruction scenario during the ORI last week.

Congratulations!

By Lt. Col. Grant Bishop
52nd Fighter Wing Inspector General

Going to war is never easy. It is a highly stressful time requiring concerted effort and forethought to insure the right people and resources are able to project lethal power on our adversary at a specific time and continue until victory is achieved.

Well Spangdahlem Air Base, you have just completed a trial run of how we would deploy and you proved you are combat ready. Congratulations!

Some of you may be disappointed in the overall grade the wing received because of all the effort spent preparing for the ORI. Don't be. First, a year ago we proved our war machine was poor in getting out the door, we needed the extra effort to get where we are today.

More importantly we fixed all of our capabilities with one key element: Communication. We found the problems and fixed them. Sometimes the broken process involved many units and extended across numerous functional areas. By communicating the problem to all involved, we developed plans to fix our weak areas.

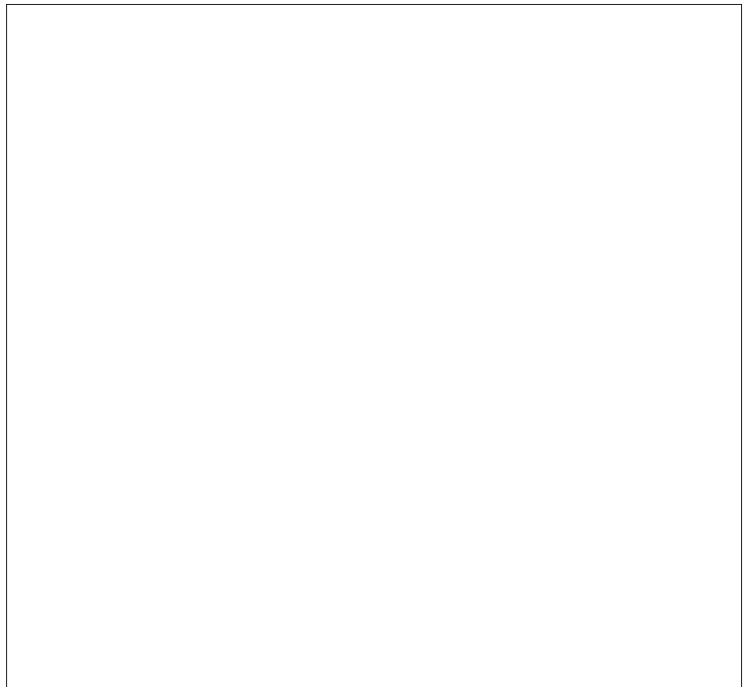
The wing overcame problems in every part of the deployment process. We tailored our resources and people to reduce our aircraft footprint. Additionally, we increased the fidelity of our mobility folders with a heavy

emphasis on immunizations. After every local exercise, we improved the system and at the end of the day, the 52nd Fighter Wing has built a combat-ready product to be employed worldwide at a moment's notice ... and that is why defeat will come quickly and often to our adversaries.

As the boss said a few weeks ago, focus on combat and view the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Inspector General team as helping us prepare. Well they have done that. We have their report and our areas that need repair. To keep the combat focus, review their write-ups and fix your area now! Don't wait. Be prepared for the real fight that is due to come. Just remember success in anything boils down to: Preparation and execution. You never know the exact time for execution, but as long as you are prepared, it doesn't matter.

The last thing I will leave you with is: Think war. All of us are combatants now. Our new threat does not play by conventional rules. In their minds, combatants are not limited to those wearing the uniform.

What does that mean? More preparation. After we strike a target; their version of a counterstrike may be attacking Disneyland. The bottom line is how will we handle that as a fighting force and as a country? Are you and your family prepared?



Staff Sgt. Matthew McQuaig, 52nd CES fire and emergency services prepares to perform a rescue operation of a victim in the "hot zone". The scenario, which lasted more than four hours, was the final test during the inspection. The ORI ended shortly after, at around 11:30 a.m. Sept 20.

Community Mailbox

Toyland opening

The Toyland grand opening takes place at the Spangdahlem BXtra Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Santa and Sparky arrives via firetruck at 11 a.m. Pictures with Santa, games, prizes, a clown and face painting are also available.

Customers get 10 percent off purchases, not to exceed \$100, for shopping in pajamas Sunday. Games, prizes and give-aways also take place Sunday.

Spouse tuition assistance

The Term 2 spouse tuition assistance application deadline is Oct. 4. Applications are available at the education center and Bitburg Annex Post Office.

For more information, call the education center at 452-6063.

Airport shuttle service

■ Airport shuttle service from base lodging begins Oct. 1. Cost is per person to Frankfurt or Rhein Main, \$75; Hahn, \$55; Ramstein, \$45; Luxembourg, \$35; pets, \$15 each.

This service is in addition to the White Swan daily airport shuttle, offered by the 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron.

■ Lodging offers van and driver day rentals beginning Oct. 1. Trips and tours are available within a three-hour radius of the Bitburg/Spangdahlem region.

Call 452-0520 for details on either service.

Family support

The following workshops take place in Spangdahlem Air Base building 307. Call 452-9491 to register.

■ Predeployment briefing for active-duty and family members, Monday and Oct. 8 from 8-9 a.m.

■ Federal employment, Monday from 9-11 a.m.

■ German bills made easy, Thursday from 8-9:30 a.m.

■ Local employment, Thursday from 1-3 p.m.

■ Sponsor training, Thursday from 3-4:30 p.m.

■ Preseparation consultation, Oct. 7 from 9-10:30 a.m.

■ Resume writing, Oct. 8 from 5-7 p.m.

■ Travel to Luxembourg City by train Friday. Meet at the Spangdahlem Air Base commissary parking lot at 7:45 a.m. Open to all military ID card holders.

The following workshops take place in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■ Predeployment briefing for active-duty and family members, Wednesday and Oct. 9 from 8-9 a.m.

■ Money management, Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

■ Creative critters, Oct. 7 from 10-11 a.m.

■ Financial planning, Oct. 10 from 6-8 p.m.

Community activities center

The following events take place in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center in building 124. Call 452-7381 for more information.

■ Chess classes take place Oct. 5 from 2-3 p.m. for beginners and 3-4 p.m. for intermediate players. Classes are free. Call to register.

■ Hispanic Late Nighter dance begins at 9 p.m. Oct. 13. The event features free salsa and meringue lessons, and Hispanic food.

Part lot closure

The 52nd Services Squadron Skill Development Used Parts Lot closes permanently Oct. 12 at 5 p.m.

Officer study program

The Olmsted Scholarship program chooses about five line officers annually to study a foreign language at an overseas university for two years. Visit <http://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/pme> for details. Applications must reach the Air Force Personnel Center by Oct. 15.

Call Tech. Sgt. Michael Grandison at DSN 665-2103 or 665-2576 for more information.

Support groups

Helping Hands, a support group for parents of children with special needs such as autistic spectrum disorders, pervasive

developmental disorders and down's syndrome meets Oct. 15 at 6:30 p.m. in Spangdahlem Air Base building 427.

Free dinner and childcare will be provided. For more information, call Capt. Michelle Ambrose at 452-8238 or 06565-958238.

Craft classes

The following classes take place in Spangdahlem Air Base building 189. Call the Craft Corner at 452-4141 or visit the shop located next to the base commissary to register.

■ Stamping techniques, Oct. 9 from 6-8 p.m. Cost is \$10, plus supplies.

■ Beginner tole painting, Oct. 14 or 28 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Cost is \$12, plus the cost of wood.

■ Framing, Oct. 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$15, plus supplies.

■ Beginner scrapbooking, Oct. 21 and 28 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$20, plus supplies.

The following classes take place in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■ Quilting, Oct. 3-28 from 6-8 p.m. Cost is \$35, plus supplies.

■ Tole painting, Oct. 29 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Cost is \$20, plus the cost of wood.

■ Basket weaving, Oct. 15 from 5-9 p.m. Cost is \$25, plus \$15 for supplies.

Library news

■ Children's storytime takes place each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Bitburg Annex library. Call 452-9056 for details.

■ Youth ghost story contest submissions are accepted Oct. 1-31 at Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex libraries. Stories will be judged in age categories. Call 452-6203 or 452-6970 for details.

Pet care news

The Pet Spa is located in Oberweiss building 1044. Call 452-9362 for more information or to register.

■ Puppy kindergarten takes place each Tuesday Oct. 22-Nov. 26 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. for puppies 12-18 months old. Cost is \$49.50.

■ PCSing pets must have a health certificate signed by a veterinarian and dated no more than 10 days before travel. Also, all shots must be current.

■ Transportation to the Pet Spa kennels takes place each Wednesday. Registration

deadline is (close of business) Tuesday. The bus departs Spangdahlem Air Base lodging at 5:15 p.m. and Bitburg Annex lodging at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per family.

Developmental screening

Infant and toddler developmental screenings take place each first, third and fifth Monday monthly from 9-11 a.m. in the Educational and Developmental Intervention Services clinic. The clinic is in Spangdahlem Air Base building 161. EDIS also offers screenings each second and fourth Monday in the Bitburg Annex Chapel.

Call 452-8238 for more information.

Travel information

The "Panther Paws 2001-2002" travel guide is available at the Spangdahlem Air Base BXtra, the Bitburg Annex exchange and at Heidelberg BookMarks for \$10. The guide provides restaurant, hotel and activity information by 81st Fighter Squadron spouses.

Girl Scouts

Girls Scouts offers girls in kindergarten through grade 12 the opportunity to learn various skills and do activities with youth in their same age group. Call Kannetha Clem at 06575-903627 for details. Local groups also seek volunteers.

Call Karen Topolsky at 06561-947769 for more information.

Holiday bazaar news

■ Volunteers are needed for the Eifel holiday bazaar Nov. 15-17. For more information or to volunteer, call Kelli Owens at 06571-147977.

■ Non-profit organizations interested in hosting an informational booth at the holiday bazaar should call Lisa Bruce at 06575-903429 or e-mail thebruces@t-online.de. Those interested should respond by Monday.

Spain trip

The Evangel Temple Fellowship Church sponsors a seven-day trip to Spain Nov. 10-16. The cost for the trip, which visits Barcelona, Madrid, Bordeaux and more, is 400 euro per person.

For more information or to sign up, call Staff Sgt. Eunice Porter at 06565-942156 or Staff Sgt. Latitia Austin at 06580-917809.

Editorial Staff

Col. Stephen Mueller.....Commander
Capt. Angela Johnson.....Chief, Public Affairs
Tech. Sgt. Rich Romero.....Internal Information
Staff Sgt. Cindy York.....Editor

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People may submit articles for publi-
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All articles are accepted for publication.
Time and space constraints, as well as
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Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to
get answers to questions you still have
after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will
be published in the Eifel Times and may
be edited or paraphrased for brevity or
clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

■ DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil
■ Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680
Box 220, APO AE 09126

■ To public affairs in building 23.
■ Concerns may also be sent via fax
to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To
receive a personal response you must
include your name and phone number.
Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for
more information.

Number of days since last DUI:

As of Thursday

5

You have a choice.
Call Airmen Against
Drunk Driving
at 452-2233.

Viewpoint

Sept. 27, 2002

Page 10

Top 10

Leadership, attitude, teamwork -- keys to mission success

By Lt. Col. Brian Jurkovac
43rd Airlift Wing chief of safety

POPE AIR FORCE BASE,
N.C. — Too often, people depend on
unit leadership to define how "good"
things are. In reality, they are the
ones who make their organization a
better place to work.

Everyone has a stake in the
effectiveness, health and welfare of
his or her organization, base and
community.

When I ask others about their best
assignments or most rewarding
experiences, their answers are
surprising.

They list assignments to austere
places supporting difficult missions,
deployments and contingencies.
They don't always list the garden
spots typically found on dream-
sheets.

This is because people make the
assignment what it is. It's not the
hardware, building or location. You
determine how good or bad your
assignment was, is or will be.

Here are my top 10 ways of
making the best of one's present
situation.

Understand your mission

Could you describe your unit's
mission to a visitor or new service
member? Could you articulate how
your specialty fits in? If not, ask an
"old head" who has been around a
while. You may just find out how
rich a heritage your unit has and its
historic significance on the
preservation of freedom and
democracy around the world.

Have loyalty in your unit

Learn to trust the decisions and
actions of your leadership. Resist the
temptation to "bad-mouth" when
things don't go exactly as planned.
Be part of the solution to unit
challenges. Being loyal means
helping others when they need you
and taking action when you see an
opportunity for improvement.

Maintain standards

Check yourself every day,
starting with your uniform, your
performance and, most of all, your
attitude. You know what the
standards are. Live up to them.
Your unit will reflect the standards
you set. Job competency is too
often the toughest standard.

Keep learning

Check your "know-it-all" attitude
at the door. Try to learn something
new about your unit's mission,
people or equipment every day.
Never let rank, job title or experience
get in the way of learning. Above all,
learn how to do things the safest way,
the right way. As you learn, the
whole unit becomes smarter, and
more diverse and capable.

Mentor

The best way to have great folks
in your unit is by teaching the ropes
and sharing experiences. Spend time
with troops; show them, tell them
and teach them the pitfalls of disaster
and the ingredients for success.

Listen

Listening is an essential
communication skill. Your troops
will bring you their problems, but
they can also bring you outstanding
ideas if they know you will listen.

Participate

Participating in unit activities,
both on and off duty, go into making
the team a cohesive combat-ready
element. Hone your leadership skills
by spearheading a unit project.

Be considerate

One very basic social skill I
learned as a child was "it was nice to
be important, but it was more
important to be nice." Be considerate
of others. That doesn't mean you
can't tell it like it is, but you can do
so nicely. Displaying the simplest
courtesies, like being on time,
prepared and using "please" and
"thank you" go a long way.

Have integrity

There is no contribution more
significant to the health and success
of your unit than integrity.

Show pride

You can be proud and enthusiastic
about your unit without being
boastful or arrogant. Pride is in the
way you do your job; the way you
never quit; the way you care about
your performance and your unit's
achievements. Pride means you
deliver on your promises and can be
counted on when the going gets
tough and the hours are long. Pride
never says "it's good enough for
government work."

It's not the equipment or weapons
that make us great! It is you and the
way you come to work every day.

Direct Lines

Pet treatment

*Question: It upsets me the way some mili-
tary families treat their pets, especially
dogs. I live in Herforst government-leased
housing. If you drive around, you see
puppies tied up barking for attention.*

*People should take care of their pets and strict
rules enforced for those who don't. Americans
already have a bad reputation as terrible pet
owners. Isn't it about time we changed that?*

Answer: You are absolutely correct. Pet
owners on Spangdahlem AB and all of its
government-leased housing must properly
care for their pets. This policy is explicitly
spelled out in Spangdahlem Air Base Instruction
48-102, "Veterinary Services and Animal
Control."

There are several avenues to approach this. I
recommend the following steps:

■ Contact pet owners personally. The owners
may not know how the pet behaves (or
misbehaves) in their absence. Just like in the
workplace, we should always strive to solve
problems at the lowest levels.

■ Use the stairwell or area leaders if the
situation does not improve after initial contact.
These folks are in "supervisory" positions and may
be more effective at communicating the
seriousness of the situation.

■ Contact security forces as a last result. The
complainant will be required to submit a written

statement (complaint). Statements which include
specific details such as previous contacts and
warnings and a history of times and dates will be
more effective in resolving the situation.

As with all situations in which housing
residents fail to comply with our requirement that
they are good neighbors, continued complaints
against pet owners may result in the pet or their
owners being removed from base housing or GLH.

Thank you for bringing this to my attention.

PRK briefing

*Question: I recently started looking into
Photo Refractive Keratotomy (PRK eye
surgery), which is offered at the Landstuhl
Army Regional Medical Center. I had an
appointment at the optometry clinic here to learn
about the process. Before I can go any further, I
need to attend an hour-long briefing by the clinic.
I tried to set this up and learned it wouldn't hap-
pen until late October.*

*After the briefing, there are several steps before
and after the procedure before I'll be worldwide
qualified again. Taking this course of action to
correct my vision will keep me from deploying for
four months after the procedure.*

*I fully understand that this is an elective option;
however, I asked if there was anyway to get the
briefing earlier - the answer was no. While I know
everyone on base is busy, I don't understand why a
one-hour briefing can't happen for another month
and a half. I can't enter the LARMC's system until*

I have this briefing.

What can be done about this?

Answer: Thank you for the opportunity to
address your concern regarding the
delayed briefing for the "Warfighter"
PRK program. I agree it is an exciting opportunity,
and interest has been overwhelming.

The Air Force surgeon general mandates the
briefing you spoke of as a means to ensure every
patient makes an informed decision. PRK, like all
surgery, is not without risks. While it's true that it
is intended to decrease your dependence on glasses
or contact lenses, there are no guarantees that you
will be prescription free.

The cause for the delayed briefing was the lack
of manning in the optometry clinic. During the past
four months, the clinic experienced a 60 percent
reduction in staff. Clinic operations went from
open access for all beneficiaries to active duty
mission-essential appointments. As you
mentioned, PRK is an elective program and
thereby one of the first programs to scale back
when faced with a shortage of clinic staff.

The good news is that the current staffing level
allows the clinic to resume the briefings. The
briefings will be conducted on a priority basis;
those on the waiting list will be given preference.
The clinic is working expeditiously to eliminate the
backlog of people awaiting the briefing.

For questions about PRK or any services
provided by the clinic, please call 452-8325.

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless indicated. More synopsis information is available at www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Bitburg Castle**Today**

Blood Work (R)

Starring Clint Eastwood, Jeff Daniels and Wanda De Jesus. Former FBI director McCaleb, who has recently recovered from a heart transplant, is tracked down by Graciela Rivers to investigate the death of her sister, whose heart happens to be the one McCaleb received. McCaleb is reluctant to take on the case, which looks like a simple robbery. (Language and violence.)

Saturday

Mr. Deeds (PG-13)

Starring Adam Sandler and Winona Ryder. Longfellow Deeds is a lovable guy leading a simple, but happy life in the tiny hamlet of Mandrake Falls, N.H. The popular owner of Deeds' Pizza, the town's only pizzeria, Deeds has become a kind of home-grown celebrity as he entertains his patrons by reciting his off-beat greeting card poetry. (Language and nudity.)

Sunday

Blood Work

Closed Monday and Tuesday**Wednesday**

Like Mike (PG)

Starring Lil' Bow Wow and Morris Chestnut. Calvin buys a magical pair of sneakers that were once worn by professional basketball player Michael Jordan. The new shoes transform Calvin into a basketball wiz who is able to compete on a professional level, despite his size. (Language.)

Thursday

Mr. Deeds

Spangdahlem Skyline**Today**

Crocodile Hunter (PG)

Starring Steve and Terry Irwin. In the outback and through the bush, the Crocodile Hunter is out to save a gorgeous croc and relocate him. It won't be easy, but if he can handle bird-eating spiders and venomous snakes without getting bitten, secret agents shouldn't be too much of a problem. It's a little beauty! (Violence and language.)

Simone (PG-13, 10 p.m.)

Starring Al Pacino and Chris Coppola. A disillusioned movie producer's lead actress abruptly drops out of his film. Unbeknownst to the public, he replaces her with computer-generated starlet, Simone. Swept up by instant success, he cannot bear to admit his fraud. (Sensuality.)

Saturday

Simone

Reign of Fire (PG-13, 10 p.m.)

Starring Matthew McConaughey and Christian Bale. In present-day London, 12-year-old Quinn watches as his mother wakes an enormous fire-breathing beast from its centuries-long slumber. Twenty years later, the beast and its offspring have scared much of the world. As a fire chief, Quinn is responsible for warding off the beasts and keeping a community alive as they eke out a meager existence in the English countryside. Into their midst comes a hotshot American who says he has a way to kill the beasts and save mankind. (Violence.)

Sunday

Lilo and Stitch (PG, 4 p.m.)

Animated. Lilo adopts a small ugly dog whom she names Stitch. Stitch would be the perfect pet if he weren't in reality a genetic experiment who has escaped from an alien planet and crash-landed on Earth. Lilo helps unlock Stitch's heart and gives him the one thing he was never designed to have - the ability to care for someone else. (Action.)

Crocodile Hunter

Monday

Reign of Fire

Tuesday

Simone

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.

Moselland exhibition offers fun in Trier

By Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Trier offers it's cultural life, trade and entertainment all in one place this weekend during the 20th annual Moselland trade fare now through Sunday in the Moselauen fair grounds.

Several hundred exhibitors from more than 10 different countries will offer both merchandise and entertainment for everyone on a 12,000-square-meter surface area, located below the Roman Konrad-Adenauer bridge.

The exhibition includes several giant halls filled with items, ranging from daily life items to specialized or high-tech equipment.

The display is organized into different areas of interest such as: Information and services; construction and living; sports; fashion and accessories; hobby; home textiles and household items; and a special item exhibition. Various sections refer to health, sports and wellness. Local hospital representatives will give lectures on health and related problems.

People will have the opportunity to receive some physical health tests or try out different health programs. In conjunction with the health motto this year's exhibition includes a Guinness Book world-record -competition on treadmill. Charity from this event and others will go toward needy people in Rwanda.

There will also be a "Fun Hall," featuring games, singing and more. The local media to include the SWR and RPR radio stations, the local Trierischer Volksfreund newspaper and others will provide live entertainment on stage, such as talk shows and interviews with special guests, games and competitions, music, podium discussions, plays and more. Entertainment segments will be aired live on the radio throughout the event.

First-class restaurants and cafe shops invite visitors for a break. People can taste both red and white wines, as well as food specialties from various countries.

Parents who would like to take a closer look at some items or programs may leave their children at a kindergarten set up inside one of the halls. Certified nurses and youngsters will watch the kids and make sure they don't get bored. Lots of toys and playgrounds will be available inside the "Kid's Hall."

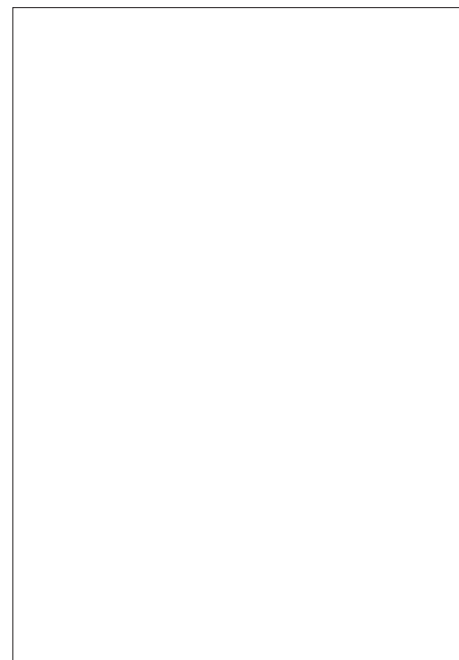
All displays mentioned can be found inside the halls. Yellow signs above the entrances will state what is inside the hall. Program schedules will be available at the cashier for a small fee.

Outside the hall people can find a variety of different exhibitions as well as fast-food and beverage stands, a children's jumping castle and more.

Everyone is welcome to enjoy the displays and fun offered by an international audience, mainly from Europe, according to the project leader.

Thousands of visitors are expected to arrive for the event at the Moselauen grounds.

Entry is 6 euro for adults. Military members, students and handicapped people pay 4 euros. Children up to age 14 pay 3 euros. There are also special prices for school classes, when



File photo

A Hungarian vendor offers native wine to Moselland Exhibition visitors during a past event in Trier.

accompanied by a teacher.

People pay half price to get in Monday through Wednesday and Friday between 9 a.m. and noon. The Moselland fare is open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Displayed items are not necessarily inexpensive at this fare since they are of the highest quality; however, according to people who have already been, it is definitely an experience to go, watch and enjoy.

What is different at the Moselland exhibition is the fact that exhibitors will ask people to test their equipment. They will demonstrate all merchandise and offer samples for visitors to try. It is not unusual for a visitors to receive a nice massage from a vendor who offers latest technology equipment.

Parking is available near the display for a fee.

To get to the Moselauen grounds take the Autobahn into Trier and stay on the Autobahn road which automatically becomes the road going into Trier and along the Mosel shore. People must take a right onto the third bridge that crosses the Mosel (to the right). After crossing this bridge half-way, the display can be seen on the right hand side. Make another right into the parking area.

Out and About

(Note: Events are subject to change at short notice. To double-check on an event prior to attending, call the telephone information office at 11833 and ask for a number to the tourist office in the town the event takes place. Tourist office agents, who usually speak English, can say whether an event was canceled.)

■ See base members participate in the 26.2-long 2002 Berlin marathon Sunday. For more information about the event, go to www.berlin-marathon.com.

■ Visit a flea market Sunday at the Mehren Autobahn rest place; at the Daun Café Classico; inside and outside the

Bernkastel-Kues Cusanus Center & Gueter hall; in front of the Trier-Zewen Extra market and in front of the Konz Edeka store.

■ The "Les musiciens" band from Luxembourg will perform a classical concert Saturday at the Bitburg Beda Haus cultural center. Cost is 10 Euros for adults and 5 Euros for students. For more information about this concert, call the Bitburg Cultural Society at 06561-964450.

■ Munich's October festival is in full swing now through Oct. 6. The base ITT office offers a number of tours to

Germany's biggest bash.

■ Thursday, is German Reunion Day, a federal German holiday. Stores will be closed throughout Germany that day.

■ See Chris de Burgh & Band in concert Saturday at the Koelnarena at Cologne.

■ Bruce Springsteen and the E-Street Band will be in concert Oct. 20 at the Berlin Velodrom. This is their only concert in Germany.

■ See Barclay James Harvest in concert Oct. 18 at the Losheim am See Eisenbahn hall.

Spang airmen run 'The Jungfrau'

By Staff Sgt. Micah Parks
52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Fuels Management Flight

The Jungfrau Marathon is one of the toughest marathons in the world. Set amid Switzerland's superb alpine setting of the Eiger, Monch and Jungfrau mountains, it is perhaps the world's most beautiful race course as well.

The course ranges from idyllic Lake Brienz to the foot of the Eiger North Wall. Starting from Interlaken, it covers the classic distance of 26 miles 385 yards (42.195 kilometers) and a difference in altitude of 6,000 feet (1,810 meters). The first 10 kilometers is through the streets of Interlaken, then it winds up the valley toward Lauterbrunnen where the course alters from paved roads to dirt and gravel hiking trails, and then on to steep and narrow mountain paths, reaching an altitude of 7,612 feet above sea level.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the marathon, officials extended race registration to 1,000 more entrants for a total 7,000 participants. About 3,500 runners assembled on the starting line daily. Typically, the race takes only one day with a cap of 6,000 runners.

The Jungfrau is my third marathon, and like the previous two I ran about nine years ago, I decided to run this one on a whim too. I found out about it less than three weeks before the race, so there wasn't much time to train.

Instead of pounding the pavement running miles and miles in preparation, I stuck taking off for Switzerland, I took several Spining classes weekly, sometimes twice daily.

Certainly, this marathon took a lot of willpower and determination, which can be a huge energy source if you know how to tap it. But it wasn't willpower alone that got

me to the finish line 5:25:25 after starting.

I have to credit the Spinning classes for helping to boost my cardio and muscle endurance levels enough to pull it off. I highly recommend the Spinning classes for anyone looking to get in better shape, no matter what their current fitness level may be.

Throughout the race, I just relaxed and enjoyed the majestic scenery of the Swiss Alps - I thought of the Jungfrau as being a long Fun Run!

Visit <http://www.jungfrau-marathon.ch> for more information on the Jungfrau-marathon. Next year's race, which takes place Sept. 6, is likely fill up quickly, so register early.

Also running from Spangdahlem Air Base was Paul McWilliams from the 52nd Medical Group.

Sports Shorts

Fitness center news

The following activities take place at the Spangdahlem Air Base fitness center. Call 452-6496 or 452-6634 for details or to register.

■ Spinning classes take place each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 a.m., noon and 5 p.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m.

■ The center offers beginner racquetball lessons by appointment.

■ Microfit fitness analyses are available each Tuesday by appointment.

■ Intro to weight training takes place the second

Thursday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

■ Selectorising training takes place the fourth Thursday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Youth sports news

■ The Spangdahlem Air Base youth sports office is in building 427. Call 452-7545 for activity information. The Bitburg Annex youth sports office is in building 2007. Call 452-9410 for activity information.

■ Basketball and cheerleading registration for youth ages 5-15 takes place Tuesday through Thursday. Cost is \$25. Call 452-7545 for details.

Bowling

Eifel Lanes Bowling Center is located in Spangdahlem Air Base building 300. Winter hours are Monday-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday, holidays and family days from noon to 9 p.m. Call 452-6217 for more information.

Powerlifting meet

The Eifel Open Powerlifting meet takes place Oct. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call the base fitness center at 452-6496 for more information.

Tennis team splits weekend

By Pete Vadney
Bitburg High School

The Bitburg Barons tennis team opened their season recently by nearly sweeping both the boys and girls matches from Division I foe Lakenheath High School.

The boys almost recorded a sweep of all their matches with only newcomer Andrew Crawford losing after he severely sprained his ankle, but still continued to play.

Returning letterman Jordan Matthews led the 8-1 charge over Lakenheath as he swept two straight sets 7-5, 6-3. Sophomores Erik Martz and Mike Bongiorno demonstrated they would be a force this year for the Barons as they won singles matches 8-2; and then combined to play the number one doubles match winning 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

Also winning their opening matches were returnee Jeremy Maestas and freshman John Pendergrass.

The girls played a much closer match squeezing by Lakenheath's girls 5-4. It took the exciting doubles play of girl's number one Brittany Garcia and number two Taryn Maxwell to push the girls team to the victory.

Banking on previous year's experience, the girls won their

double's match 6-3, 6-4 to close out the match. Earlier in the day, they both won singles matches along with number three Ashley Weston.

The number three doubles team of Nora Fisher and Ashley Fary also contributed an 8-6 victory to the cause in their first varsity match.

The next day, the Barons tennis team traveled to the International School of Brussels where they were treated to a much different outcome. The Raiders, perennially division I champion, used their home court advantage to perfection as they beat the Baron girls 9-0 and squeezed out the boy's match 6-3.

Only Crawford and Pendergrass had victories winning 9-7 and 8-6 respectively. Pendergrass also paired with Maestas to win a doubles match later in the day 8-5.

Although Crawford lost his singles match, it was a close one 8-6. Martz also lost a close one 8-6, and Matthews dropped a rare number one match to ISB's Jun Koide 6-2, 3-6, 6-4. This was after being ahead in the last set only to break two tennis rackets and borrow one from a teammate.

The boy's loss to ISB broke a noteworthy 14-game win streak without a loss, which began in the 2000 season.

German-American friendship?

Erik Polumbo, Bitburg Barons, tackles a team member from the Dusseldorf youth football club. The Barons set up the scrimmage as a friendship game, knowing the team was Germany's best youth football team. The Dusseldorf boys proved it, winning 53-0. The Barons open the league season Saturday in Brussels, playing against AFNORTH.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook